

Exercises



Exercise 3

Wild horses are rare these days, and the sight of them tends to inspire powerful emotions. Read the following poems about wild horses and learn how two different poets view them. Then answer the questions that follow.

Wild Stallion

by Alma Roboson Higbee

From the train car window I saw his stand,
The golden stallion, high on the mesa rim,
And grazing far below, the little band
Of mares and colts, sun fingers burnished him
But wrought in precious metal, creature of grace,
Unfettered¹ as the wind, standing alone,
The last proud King of a vanishing kingly² race.
Let him stand on the plateau under the mesa stars,
Let him run the miles and dream his wild, sweet dream
Against the sure encroachment³ of fence and bars.

¹unfettered: free

³encroachment: advancement



The Wild, The Free

by Lord Byron

With flowing tail, and flying mane,
Wide nostrils never stretched by pain,
Mouths bloodless to the bit or rein,
And feet that iron never shod,
And flanks unscarred by spur or rod,
A thousand horse, the wild, the free,
Like waves that follow o'er the sea.

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- What is the author's attitude toward the horses in "Wild Stallion"?
 - suspicious
 - admiring
 - puzzled
 - affectionate
- In "Wild Stallion," which of the following ideas is introduced in the last four lines (lines 7–10)?
 - No other animals live on the mesas.
 - The wild horses are sleeping.
 - The wild horses are sometimes dangerous.
 - The wild horses' existence is threatened.
- In "Wild Stallion," which line *best* expresses the poet's theme?
 - "The last proud King of a vanishing kingly² race."
 - "The golden stallion, high on the mesa rim."
 - "From the train car window I saw his stand."
 - "Let him run the miles and dream his wild, sweet dream"
- In "Wild Stallion," which of the following could *most likely* be read as a symbol?
 - the mesa rim
 - the mesa stars
 - the fence and bars
 - the train car window
- In "The Wild, The Free," what characteristic of the horses is *most* emphasized?
 - their grace
 - their uniformity
 - their wildness
 - their power
- In "The Wild, The Free," which of the following is an example of figurative language?
 - "Wide nostrils never stretched by pain,"
 - "Mouths bloodless to the bit or rein,"
 - "And flanks unscarred by spur or rod,"
 - "Like waves that follow o'er the sea."

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biodiversity and more to do with proving to themselves—and to the rest of the world—that such a feat can be performed.

Given what we know, there is only one conclusion to be drawn: this animal should be left alone. First, such an experiment would probably never succeed. It is simply not feasible. It is highly unlikely that the DNA from an animal that has been dead for 25,000 years will be healthy and intact. Even if scientists did succeed in cloning the mammoth, they would need to find DNA from a female mammoth in order for the species to reproduce. Also, there is no guarantee that the scientists would be able to create a natural environment suitable for the mammoth's survival. If these scientists succeeded in bringing one mammoth into the world, it would probably live a terribly lonely and unhealthy life. Jarkov should be left in peace. Admittedly, we here at Animal Rights International believe that

cloning *does* have some benefits. As a project advisor, I work closely with scientists who use methods similar to cloning to strengthen the survival chances of other species. Species that have been helped by such methods include the red wolf, the Eld's deer, the black-footed ferret, and the common marmoset. And of course, there are many more to be saved! But the time and energy spent on the woolly mammoth project should be spent on goals that are more feasible.

Why don't these scientists assist in the attempts to save *current* endangered species from extinction rather than toying with the past? These cloudy-headed scientists are trying to recapture the past without thinking about the likely future consequences: wasted time and money and, more importantly, a second lonely death for a woolly mammoth.



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1. What is this article **mostly** about?
- A positive and negative effects of cloning
 - B reasons why cloning should be banned
 - C arguments against cloning a woolly mammoth
 - D ways scientists might use cloning to help people

2. What is the author's attitude toward the practice of cloning?
- A enraged
 - B conflicted
 - C indifferent
 - D admiring

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3. The author uses the word "feasible" twice, once in paragraph 6 and again in paragraph 7. What does the word "feasible" mean as it appears in the context of this article?
- A costly to complete
 - B easy to imagine
 - C possible to carry out
 - D valuable to science

4. The reader can feel certain that the information in this passage is accurate for all of the following reasons **except** which one?
- A The author uses the names of specific people and places.
 - B The author works closely with experts on cloning.
 - C The author expresses strong opinions about cloning.
 - D The author gives a lot of information about cloning.

5. According to the author, what is the driving force behind the scientists' quest to clone Jarkov?
- A dedication to science
 - B love of money
 - C affection for animals
 - D self-serving goal

6. What is the **most** challenging aspect of cloning a woolly mammoth?
- A finding a team of experts
 - B keeping the mammoth frozen
 - C locating healthy DNA
 - D digging through the ice

7. Which of the following statements about the author is true?
- A She is a scientist.
 - B She lives in Siberia.
 - C She is an expert on cloning.
 - D She is an animal-rights activist.

8. What situation would **most likely** anger this author?
- A cloning human hearts to use in transplants
 - B cloning a dinosaur to study the way it thinks
 - C cloning animal parts to use for medical purposes
 - D cloning tigers to increase their numbers